

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-20 (Canceled).

Claim 21 (Currently Amended): An apparatus for optical modulation, comprising:
a phase modulator configured to drive light with an NRZI-coded drive signal for
phase modulation; and

an intensity modulator configured to modulate the intensity of a phase-modulated
NRZI-coded optical signal received from said phase modulator, with and having an operating
point set adjusted such that the output of said intensity-modulated optical signal is eliminated
in case when a phase of said NRZI-coded optical signal is continuously same value
substantially fixed.

Claim 22 (Currently Amended): A method of optical modulation, comprising:
driving, at a phase modulator, light with an NRZI-coded drive signal for phase
modulation;

modulating, at an intensity modulator, the intensity of a phase-modulated NRZI-coded
optical signal received from said phase modulator; and
eliminating the adjusting an operating point of said intensity modulator such that an
output from an optical signal of said intensity-modulated at said intensity modulator in case
optical signal is eliminated when a phase of said NRZI-coded optical signal is continuously
same value substantially fixed.